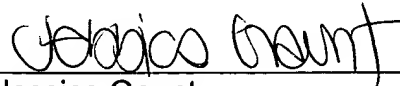


PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

March 31, 2005  
Date

  
Jessica Gaunt

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kai Wang et al.  
Application No. : 09/801,196  
Filed : March 6, 2001  
For : NOVEL MATRIX METALLOPROTEINASE (MMP-25)  
EXPRESSED IN SKIN CELLS

Art Unit : 1634  
Docket No. : 60117-61  
Date : March 31, 2005

Attention: Office of Petitions  
Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Commissioner for Patents:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as shown on the following pages: